COMMISSIONERS KRISTIN K. MAYES - Chairman GARY PIERCE PAUL NEWMAN SANDRA D. KENNEDY BOB STUMP





Interim Executive Director

March 11, 2009

ORIGINAL

To: Docket Control

RE: Far West Water & Sewer, Inc. - Customer Comments

Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0608

Please docket the attached ______ customer comments OPPOSING the above filed rate case

Customer comments can be reviewed in E-docket under the above docket number.

Filed by: Utilities Division - Consumer Services

Arizona Corporation Commission

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Arizona Corporation Commission Docket Control 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, AZ 85007 Docket # WS-03478A-08-0608

Commissioners;

Thank you for holding the meeting regarding the rate increase requested by Far West Water and Sewer. The turnout was far greater than expected, which you noted, and was indicative of the concerns held by all customers of Far West.

The speakers you heard were not professionals that were hired to influence the commission. They were real people who identified real and existing problems, and it is not unreasonable to conclude that these various situations will be exacerbated unless the commission becomes involved.

Far West is part of a company with varying holdings/interests, and although this is not the place to impugn the other aspects of the company, there are suspicions that the development division of the company is complicit in some of Far West's problems-building new housing developments when the ability of Far West to effectively serve the existing population is in question, for example. Perhaps those suspicions will be verified or disproved, during your discovery process, but one thing is certain; the people who are most familiar with the workings of Far West-insiders if you will-unequivocally say that Far West is poorly managed.

Other problems surrounding this situation also warrant closer examination. Are the ADEQ requirements reasonable and fair? Are the fines levied by the Atty. General necessary, or are they motivated by something other than public welfare? Did the county issue building permits in the area serviced by Far West, knowing of the existing problems, and if so, why? The culpability of Far West is not questioned, but everything needs to be carefully looked at.

In conclusion, there are always some who will complain about any rate increases, but most folks realize that we should expect to pay a fair price for services rendered-the operative word being fair. The rates requested by Far West are unreasonable and exorbitant. It is respectfully requested that the commission reject any increase, temporary or otherwise, until a complete and comprehensive investigation of Far West is completed.

Committee of the state of the s

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Sincerely, Gene W. Lemon 13218 E. 53rd Dr. Yum AZ, 85367 Lemonchar@aol.com

Aller Carrier Stephens

Farwest Water & Sewer

James & Lenora Holloway 10112 S. Tornado Avenue

Dear Sir;

Yuma, Az 85365 Phone 928-305-0748 3/01/09

We are taxpayers in Yuma. We own property. However, we are here only 4 months a year. We feel that \$21.75 per month is not excessive. However, we feel that charging for services That we do not get is wrong. We pay you for 8 months a year that we get no services for. $21.75 \times 12 = 261.00 \text{ per year.}$

We are paying you at the rate of \$65.25 per month, now, for the use we are getting. That for Our use is already entirely too much!

If you raise the charges to \$74.32 per month and charge us for the 12 months a year, even though We are here only 4 months. You will be charging us at the rate of \$891.84 per year or \$222.96 per Month for service we will receive.

That is theft. That is holding us up at gun point in broad day light. That will drive out Your winter visitors. If someone was using the sewer without paying for it, you would charge them For thief of services. You are charging us for 8 months of services that we don't get, that is Thief of our money.

You will hurt Yuma's economy!

If you raise the prices that high you should not be allowed to charge for any month that the sewer In not used

James & Lenora Holloway

10112 S. Tornado Avenue

Yuma, Az. 85365

Jenou Hollowan

Step 1

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complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.		
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ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 13548 E 53 KM ST WMQ AL 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 404-250 - 7/21	T 7 3
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER	150
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608	KG 3
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET	7 6 6
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER	200
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS		E. J.
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Step 3		5
ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:		
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Phoenix Arizona 95007:	on, the tradining to it	6 2 2

Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
William K. Spurzem	3-8-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13548 £53+d 5T Urema AZ 85367	406-250-2967
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
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I heel that this plant upgrade is solar for the herifit of Fww. and should not be included in the lase. Thouly are

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
SHARON SEEFRIED	3-7-9
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13667 E 49 1 Ln, Yuma, A 2 85367	541-661-5068
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
NA	

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You may e-mail it as an attachment to: mailmaster@azcc.gov

Harlow & Sharon Seefried 18952 Pacific Crest Dr. Brookings, Or. 97415

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3-1-09
YOUR PHONE NUMBER 342 038 2
DOCKET NUMBER
WS-03478A-08-0608
YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
PRO CON (B)OTHER

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Mr. Isaac D. Werbel 11388 E. 26th Pl. Yuma, AZ 85367-7271

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
Robert Luft	3-5-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 59 - 40 me
3599 So Salida Del Sol Ave	(509) 833-5900 - Cell
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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or

R.M. & P.L. Luft
3599 S. Salida DelSol Ave
Yuma, Az.85365



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Step 2

Mick & Nona Buzzard 11499 S Prescott Ave. Yuma, AZ 85365

YOUR NAME	DATE	
Marin J. Buyeard ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIPS	3-7-09	
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP)	YOUR PHONE NUMBER	
9663 E. 38 th Place Yuna, Az, 85365 DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	958-342-1587	
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER	
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608	
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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
DENNIS DUCHSCHERER	MARCH 9 2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13793 E53 Cd DRIVE YUMA, AZ. 85367	928-342-9861
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
VICKIPAINTS@xplannet.com	

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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Connie Pershinsky 10313 E. 38th Pl Yuma, AZ 85365

Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
CONSTANCE M. PERShinsky	3-9-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
10313 E. 38th PL. Yuma, Az. 85365	928-342-3909
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
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Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

13441 E 53rd Street Yuma, AZ 85367 3 March 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission Consumer Services Division 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: Request for Rate Hike/Emergency Fees, FarWest Water/Sewer, Yuma, AZ. Docket #WS-03478A-08-0608

As an owner of several parcels that will be impacted by these rates, I must PROTEST this inordinate increase. We all accept that rates of most utilities will, inevitably, increase over time, but these increases are excessive.

Be aware that many of these parcels are occupied by 1-2 Recreational Vehicles for only a few months of the year. RVs are notorious for using little water and, therefore, producing little sewage. Thanks to a prior ruling on your part, we are forced to pay for 12 months of sewer usage when, in fact, it may be used as little as 2-3 months of the year.

Thoughts I would like you to consider:

- 1) Pay only for months that there is water service (no water/no sewage?).
- 2) Lesser fees if only use is RV?
- 3) Sewer fee linked to water consumption?

Many of the parcels are occupied by seasonal tenants. If the landlords are forced to pass these exorbitant fees on to the tenants, the seasonal tourist market will be seriously impacted. As a landlord of several of these parcels, I will likely stop renting them, turn off water (therefore pay no water/sewer to FarWest) which will put further financial burdens on this already failing company.

But are they failing? They just opened a new subdivision, which was made possible by expansions to sewer system they are now asking us to pay for.

Please decline these increases!

Barbara W. Franzen

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
William /LACHOS	3/9/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13210 CHUSE WAY A	406 253304
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
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YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
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Step 2

VOUD MAAR	·
YOUR NAME	DATE
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CAroline VLACHOS	5-9-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 85367	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
12210 Chace 11 111 205	1101 750 5101
13210 Chase Way Yuma AZ	406-253-5101
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	MC 004704 00 0000
	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	0000
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YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
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William & Caroline Vlachos 325 Monegan Rd. Whitefish, MT 59937

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Step 2

YOURNAME Jack Polace	DATE YNOW 7/09
ADBRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 10402 & 37 Sheet	YOUR PHONE NUMBER 928-343-3777
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase CASE OR UTILITY NAME	WS-03478A-08-0608 YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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Step 2

YOURNAME	DATE
Jame Place	Mary, 3009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
10402 E 37 Street Leuna AZ 85365	928-343-2777
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
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YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
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Sten 1

YOUR NAME	DATE
Aber T + Sherry L Hayes ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	March /2/2009 YOUR PHONE NUMBER
·	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13659 E. 53rd Lane Yuma, Az. 85367	
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
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Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

You may e-mail it as an attachment to: mailmaster@azcc.gov

Bob & Sherry Hayes 13659 E 53rd Lane Yuma, AZ 85367

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
M. KROENING	FEB 26 2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
12763 E - 46 DR Yuma AZ 85367	928-342-5064.
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
N/A.	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Far West Water and Sewer Co. (FWWS) customers are protesting the application submitted by them, docket number WS-03478A-08-0608. According to a joint News Release from ADEQ and Arizona Attorney General's office, FWWS has had long standing violations. The neglect of their responsibility to maintain their sewer system resulted in their present crisis. The alleged "emergency" was a result of inadequate planning by FWWS to maintain compliance, not a "sudden change" as quoted by the company using Op Att'y Gen. 71-17 at 13. This does not constitute an emergency because it was not brought on suddenly, but rather was a result of the company's chronic lack of compliance. Now that ADEQ has required them to build adequate facilities, they want the customers to pay for their mismanagement. Please vote NO as this is not an emergency. Any financial hardship appears to be associated with poor management and therefore, is not the responsibility of their customers.

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or

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
Harvey L. Roper	3-5-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
132258 46 th It, Yuma, AZ 85367	
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
NA	

Step 3

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Step 2

	YOUR NAME	DATE
	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIE	3-5-09
	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13225	13225E 46 th St	208-230-0939
	DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
	Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
	CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
	Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
	YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
	NA	
	· ·	

Step 3

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Harvey L. & Madeline Roper 13225 E. 46th. Street Yuma, AZ. 85367

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Step 2

	The state of the s
YOUR NAME C	DATE
JONATHON DETTMON	3/1/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13698 E 55+45+ guma	928 -305-9549
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Far West request for emergency rate increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
Wilmashugdettman msn. Con	

Step 3

there is no reason to paise water this much

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Step 4

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ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Dettmon 13698 E 55#85+11000 Yuma, AZ. 85069 ebruary 14, 2009

Arizona Corporation Commission Consumer Services Section 1200 W. Washington Street Phoenix, AZ 85007 Mrs. Betty L. Fox 2706 E 62nd Lane Spokane, WA 99223

Re: Far West Water & Sewer Rate Increase

I am writing to strongly protest the sewer rate increase currently being requested by Far West Water &Sewer Company in Yuma, Arizona. This is outrageous. How can you even begin to seriously entertain allowing an almost 215% increase. The area that will be impacted by this request increase is home to a large number of senior citizens on a fixed income (whose annual COLA increases over 15 years would not even come close to the 214.5% increase they are requesting), military and other working families who are already financially pressed. If Far West Water & Sewer cannot keep up with expanding services without increasing rates to long existing customers then they need to stop expanding or find another source of funding. Perhaps they need to take a hard look at what they pay their CEOs and owners then go on a diet just like the rest of us.

You keep allowing APS to increase their rates until it is all we can do to keep up and now all the other utilities want an even bigger piece of the pie. Enough already. Stop this madness.

My name is Betty & Fox- I am part time of a Vella at 10761 E 34th St. I am not it favor at what you c doing I am on a very limited income! I could not a to come to your this syon. Please doint for what you planning on That you Betty & Fox

3160

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the Consumers Services Assistance Form for complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

Robert Archer

Step 2

14444 E 54th Dr. Yuma, AZ 85367

YOUR NAME	DATE
ROBERT ARCHER	MAR 6 109
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
14444 E 54 DR WMA AZ. 85367	928 345 2694
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON (9) OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
	ARTI. INCLEASE

3:50 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE

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Step 2

Pete & Marie Johnson 9729 E. 38th Street Yuma, AZ 85365 God Bless Americal

Peder : Marie Johnson	3-5-08
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
9729 & 38th St. June # 85365	(503) 364-8664
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
P_M Johnson@ netzero. Com	

Step 3

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Step 2

Mr. Don Kelso 13816 S Dorothy Dr. Yuma, AZ 85367-8477

YOUR NAME	DATE
Helen R- Kelso ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	3-4-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
138135 Dorothy Dr. Yuma AZ 85367 DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	928-304-1063
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
thkelso@ hotmail com	

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Since we are living on a fixed income we can't afford this proposed increases 4

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or

Re: Docket # W5-03478A-08-0608 Much 5-2009

normaly all lots have a sewer get to pay for the sewers. Sometimes added to the lot price or at time of sewer hook eng. After that a get for sewer is on your top fill, agree 10-30 ser month.

I have suit in 3 states and numerous cities and counties, and it is always done in this way.

Never have I seen where sewer gees are charged to the existing homes or properties to pay for updates to service new lots made.

H+S has several thousand empty lots at this time, and expects us to pay bor updates to service them. It seems they have built all of these lots without a provision for their share of the costs to operate.

That seems to be an aufull lot of money.

Robert Selmore

Robert Gilmore 13686 S. Selina Drive Yuma, AZ 85367

Cell# 530-945-5446

Step 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
Ruth Slaughter	3-7-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
11155 E. 26th lane Juma Az 85367	480-840-5695
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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This is Extortion!

Siep 1

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
William L. Slaughter	3-7-09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
11155 E. 26th lane Yuma Az 85367	928-581-3135
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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Step 2

		1
Gerry 6, So Arme Pachard	S / S	1/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP 10352 5, Ave 10 12 Fump AZ	AS 39	50240
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	DOCKET NUMBER WS-03478A-	-
Far West Water and Sewer Company	YOUR POSITION O	ON THE DOCKET OTHER
Serry Carlbou CADL Com		

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Joanne Bouchard P.O. Box 1204 Caribou, ME 04736



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Step 2

	TOOKTAME	DRIE
	JOSEPH COMERU	3/5/09
	ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
	13349 E 47 Dr	254-613-6177
	DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
	Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
	CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
	Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
-	YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
	MOTO = 925 @ EARTHLINK, NET	
Note	: Amount of Water used is what	sewer should be based
	ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE: flat vafe per want	h

DATE

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
MICHAEL J COMEAN	3/5/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13349 £47 Dr. Yuna Az 85367	253 691 0279
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	

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Mote charge sever rates based on water usage not a flat rate per month, stephich is completely unfair.

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Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

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Step 2

YOUR NAME ,	DATE
Daniel E. Stewart	3.5.09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
13349 47 th Dr. Yuna AZ. 85367	360-649-3635
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	_
dan and Cathy @ MSN/o	

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Note: Based sever charges on amount of water usage not a flat rate, makes for a fair system.

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Step 2

YOUR NAME / / / / /	DATE / /
Saspard Koenig	3/5/09
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHOME NUMBER
3565 S. Salida Del Sol Yuma Az.	928-305-6599
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON: 85365	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
,	

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE /	
LINDA C. Johnson	3/7/09	
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER	015-116
1375/ E. 53rd Lane, Vuma, Az 85367	7/5-28/-9335 or	2496
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER	, ,
Request for an Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608	
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET	
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER	
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS		
`		

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Step 2

YOUR NAME	DATE
Joseph + KAY DUARTE ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZEY	3-3-69
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
1380 CARDENTER Rd. DALLEY CA 94561 DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	925-625-2693
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Interm Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water & Sewer Company	PRO CON OOTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
Ciscoduarte a sbc global. Net	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

We hope you will not let This happen. Proper Notice has not been given. Look at the books and make sure this is needed. The company should be able to finance the emengency. Maybe the city should, take This over or appoint a finance person.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St.
Phoenix, Arizona 85007;

Tec enclosed the house

Arizona Corporation Commission Public Comment Form

Step 1

This form should be used for public comments pertaining to a specific pending case only. Please be sure to reference the appropriate docket number so your comments are filed in the docket promptly. Please use the Consumers Services Assistance Form for complaints, inquiries or general inquiries.

Marvin Wood

Step 2

1902 Orchard Rd. Holtville, CA 92250-9534

YOUR NAME	DATE
Marvin E. Wood	3/6/2009
ADDRESS, CITY, STATE AND ZIP	YOUR PHONE NUMBER
1902 Orchard Road Holtville (Yuma property owner)	(760) 356-2383
DOCKET YOU WISH TO COMMENT ON:	DOCKET NUMBER
Request for Emergency Rate Increase	WS-03478A-08-0608
CASE OR UTILITY NAME	YOUR POSITION ON THE DOCKET
Far West Water and Sewer Company	PRO CON OTHER
YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS	
Mwoodhltv@aol.com	

Step 3

ENTER YOUR COMMENTS HERE:

Note: Unable to attend Public Comment meeting on Mar. 5th @ Sunrise Elementrary as venue was too small...had to remain outside)

I am owner of two properties in the foothills of Yuma, occupied by family members who are retired and permanent residents, both are served by Far West Water & Sewer Company although only one is connected to sewer.

After reviewing the emergency application that is before you, as a former unified school board president, who presided over district-wide modernization and new construction projects, I would like to speak candidly about my observations:

>I can not speak to the specifics (without complete history and supporting documents) as the application is as much about what it does not say as what is actually stated. i.e.

If you need additional space for your comments, please use the continuation page below.

Step 4

This form may be completed electronically, printed and mailed to:
Arizona Corporation Commission, Consumer Services Section, 1200 W. Washington St. Phoenix, Arizona 85007;
or

My name is Marvin E. Wood and I reside at 1902 Orchard Road in Holtville, California. I am owner of two properties in the foothills of Yuma, occupied by family members who are retired and permanent residents { located at 13133 E. 53rd Dr. (sewer/water) and 10760 S. Fortuna Palms loop (water only) both of which are serviced by FWWC.

After reviewing the emergency application that is before you, as a former unified school board president, who presided over district-wide modernization and new construction projects, I would like to speak candidly about my observations:

- I can not speak to the specifics (without complete history and supporting documents) as the application is <u>as much</u> about what it does "not say" as what <u>is</u> actually stated: (i.e. "current rates fail to cover its expenses and <u>liabilities</u>," "immediate rate relief will protect the public from <u>exposure to harm."</u>) The deficiency stated is extraordinary, requires further investigation. <u>True costs</u> need be separated from "liabilities" and debt restructure sought. The initial design concept approval process (operational certificate) should have reflected the customer base, growth, and health and safety issues.
- I find the rate request, at the very least, to be <u>immodest</u> (240%) and tantamount to the classic "hail-Mary" as the rate payer is expected to receive the Company's debt obligations, as they are passed along, with the rate payer being viewed as <u>better</u> off for having done so.
- To arrive at a point-in-time where any entity (private or public) seeks to place an undue burden solely on a relatively small base of rate payers (many of whom are seasonal and permanent residents on fixed retirement incomes) reflects a strategy that imposes hardship on all resident classes and service connections.
- The approval of such <u>interim</u> and <u>permanent</u> rate structure increases, that far exceeds even the national averages, is not a win-win situation; but is more likely to enhance the private profit (factoring growth) over serving the <u>public good</u> doing little to improve public confidence in the process.
- While I can only speak in generalities, the application itself identifies the past business practice(s) of: "using a portion of IDA bond proceeds intended to finance improvements to the sewer system to retire the unpaid balance of Water Infrastructure debt", allowing the "parasitic practice" of using revenues from the Water Company to service the Company's debt; both practices are presented as a legal basis to justify it's need and circumvents proper oversight.
- To reward a rogue company, who should have had a better business plan and practices in place, by <u>tripling</u> rates to its service connections less <u>than a year</u> since its 2008 rate filing request and 2007 loan agreement, in my opinion, would be an <u>injustice</u>.

Concerns:

- As a home owner, your analysis and finding, as a judicial body, has the potential to change the landscape from one of "affordable housing" to homes "for sale."
- If the permanent rate increases sought are approved as requested, one likely
 outcome would be the formation of a "tax/rate payer" association whose sole
 purpose would be to intervene so as to protect the resident's pocketbooks.
- While not at issue in this application, given the past business practices and performance of this Company, no assurances are given that this Utility's strategy will not include a similar "rate increase proposal" for its water company.
- Although, this commission cannot mandate quality leadership or professionalism for either party, it can provide an <u>equitable solution</u>. The circumstances as I see them, suggests the need for a <u>reasonable</u> "rate cap" that would reflect the "true costs of wastewater delivery" to mitigate the Company's need and the rate payers burden.

Kindgo T Regards,

Feb. 28, 2009

Docket Control 1200 W. Washington Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Reference: Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0608

My husband & I, along with many of our friends are on fixed incomes. This and the original proposal will pose a hardship on us.

I do not believe that we, the customers, should be expected to pay for this company's misstates or their future plans to build homes on land owned by members of this company. It is quite obvious that this is their intent.

This letter is a NO vote for the proposed rate increase by Far West Water and Sewer Company.

Sincerely,

Fran Cartton

11322 S. Ave 12 5 #87 Yuma, AZ 85367 928-726-2938

W-03478A-08-0608

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Guadalupe Ortiz

Phone:



Fax: (



Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion

No. 2009 - 77268

Date: 3/5/2009

Complaint Description:

08A Rate Case Items - Opposed

N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By:

Mr. & Mrs Clifford

Zimmerman

Account Name:

Mr. & Mrs Clifford Zimmerman

Home:

Street:

Work:

City:

Yuma

CBR:

State:

Α7

Zip: 1

is:

Utility Company.

Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division:

Water

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:



Nature of Complaint:

EMAIL RECEIVED - OPINION OPPOSED:

RE: DOCKET NO. WS-03478A-08-0608

From: CLIFF ZIMMERMAN [mailto.

Sent: Wednesday, March 04, 2009 5:27 PM

To: Utilities Div - Mailbox

Subject: Far West

Arizona Corporation Commission Consumer Services Section

March 4, 2009

Subject:

Far West rate increases

Reference: Emergency Case Docket no. WS-03478A-08-0608

Permanent Case Docket no. WS-03478A-08-0454

As property owners of three separate lots within the Foothills we understand the necessity of maintaining and operating a proper sewer processing facility. We have two lots within the affected area that are subject to the extreme increases.

These lots are rented seasonally to our snowbird friends in RV's and use only a small amount of effluent that requires processing. They have no laundry facilities etc. that requires high usage. These visitors end up paying an equal amount of costs as any full time or permanent resident and structure.

According to the information sent to me the proposed rate increases structure the costs based on RV Park vs. Residential and Commercial.

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

I hereby request the commission to give consideration to other properties such as ours (seasonal RV use only).

Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Zimmerman

Yuma, AZ &

RV Properties: *End of Complaint*

Utilities' Response:

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<u>Investigator's Comments and Disposition:</u>

Docketed with the Docket Control Center of the Commission to be made part of the record. CLOSED

Docketed with the Docket Control Center of the Commission to be made part of the record. CLOSEL *End of Comments*

Date Completed: 3/5/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77268

WS-03478A-08-8608

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Guadalupe Ortiz Phone

No. 2009 - 77270

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Date: 3/5/2009

Complaint Description:

08A Rate Case Items - Opposed

N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By:

Glenn & Karen

Thompson

Account Name:

Glenn & Karen Thompson

Zip

....

Street:

Opinion

Work:

Home

City:

Yuma

ΑZ

CBR:

State:

<u>is:</u>

Utility Company.

Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division:

Water

Contact Name:

Filder

Contact Phone:



Nature of Complaint:

EMAIL RECEIVED - OPINION OPPOSED:

RE: Docket No. WS-03478A-08-0608

Far West Water and Sewer Co. (FWWS) customers are protesting the application submitted by them, docket number WS-03478A-08-0608. According to a joint News Release from ADEQ and Arizona Attorney General's office, FWWS has had long standing violations. The neglect of their responsibility to maintain their sewer system resulted in their present crisis. The alleged "emergency" was a result of inadequate planning by FWWS to maintain compliance, not a "sudden change" as quoted by the company using Op Att'y Gen. 71-17 at 13. This does not constitute an emergency because it was not brought on suddenly, but rather was a result of the company's chronic lack of compliance. Now that ADEQ has required them to build adequate facilities, they want the customers to pay for their mismanagement. Please vote NO as this is not an emergency. Any financial hardship appears to be associated with poor management and therefore, is not the responsibility of their customers.

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Docketed with the Docket Control Center of the Commission to be made part of the record. CLOSED *End of Comments*

Date Completed: 3/5/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77270

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Investigator: Deb Reagan

Phone:

Fax:

Priority: Respond Within Five Days

Opinion

No. 2009

77386

Date: 3/10/2009

Complaint Description:

08A Rate Case Items - Opposed

N/A Not Applicable

First:

Last:

Complaint By:

Dave

Bartholomew

Account Name:

Dave Bartholomew

Home:

Street:

Work:

City:

Yuma

CBR:

State:

ΑZ

Zip: 85367

is:

Utility Company.

Far West Water & Sewer, Inc.

Division:

Water

Contact Name:

Roxanne Fiddes

Contact Phone: (

Nature of Complaint:

***** WS-03478A-08-0608 *****

*** REFERRED FROM CHAIRMAN MAYE'S OFFICE ***

Customer sent the following e-mail -

From: Dave & Linda Bartholomew [mailto:

Sent: Friday, March 06, 2009 11:03 AM

To: Mayes-WebEmail

Subject: Far West Water and Sewer Docket # WS-03478A-08-0608

Good Day ACC Chairman Mayes,

I would like to thank you, Paul Newman, Gary Pierce and Judge Rodda for coming to Yuma last night to hear from the community. I hope the meeting gave you a lot of insight into who the community is. We have a unique community of mostly retired folks who have worked hard our whole lives and are enjoying the later years in the warmth of the Arizona Desert during the winter while still being able to enjoy our families during the rest of the year. We own property and pay taxes. Most of us live here 5-6 months a year and bring many dollars to the economy of Yuma each year. The population of Yuma almost doubles during the winter months. I hope you had an opportunity to tour the Foothills and see where we live and smell what we smell.

The main issue I would like to make very clear to you is the relationship between Far West Water and Sewer and H&S Development. There are some questions I would ask that you explore during your investigation of the case. The insidious relationship between H&S Development and Far West Water and Sewer is one of them. They are both owned by the Schechert Family. The two daughters of Hank Dorothy Schechert (the founder of the Foothills) took over the companies when their dad passed away. Why, during these economic times and the problems with the sewer company, did H&S Development open 219 new lots for sale at Foothills Blvd, and E. 48th St.? The biggest question is why these two companies did not pay for the necessary infrastructure while

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

they were developing and selling the lots in the Foothills. A huge number of lots were developed and sold during the real estate boom between 2001 and 2006. Why was the development of the sewer system not funded to keep up with that boom? The other major developer in the Foothills is The Development Group. I am not sure who owns this company but I believe it is the Schechert Family also.

The other issue you seemed very interested in when one of the speakers talked about the smell around the sewage treatment facilities. I live 1 mile from the facility located at County 14 Street and Avenue 14E and on a still night, I can smell that facility. I drive by it often and cannot believe the smell. That smell has not improved in the 10 years I have lived here. I have also played golf at the Foothills Par 3 which is adjacent to and watered with effluent from that plant. The smell is awful walking around the golf course near the plant.

Yesterday, before the meeting, I drove to Wal Mart the back way. I drove west on 40th Street and it turns to a dirt road. Far West has a sewage treatment facility around 40th and 9E. As I drove past, the smell almost overtook me and I could smell that in my nose the rest of the night and while I was at that meeting with the ACC. I think this was the facility that one speaker (I think Spires) talked about when he told you he has had no response from Far West Water and Sewer on his phone calls regarding that smell. A tanker truck had just come out of the facility so I followed it. Just east of Avenue 8E (behind Wal Mart about a half mile) he made a U Turn and backed up to a sewer manhole cover and started to dump the contents of the tanker into that hole. I stopped and asked the driver, who had on a Far West Water and Sewer shirt, about what he was dumping and where it was going. He said it was effluent from the Far West treatment facility and the pipe was put in years ago and to the best of his knowledge it went all the way to El Golfo at the Gulf of Baja. I looked at the water he was dumping and is was a light green in color.

Thank you for your efforts in this matter.

Sincerely,

Dave Bartholomew

Yuma AZ 85367

End of Complaint

Utilities' Response:

Investigator's Comments and Disposition:

Responded to customer with the following e-mail -

Dear Mr. Bartholomew,

Thank you for your recent e-mail to Chairman Mayes. It has been assigned to me for a response. I am a Consumer Analyst in the Utilities Division and I am one of the Commission staff assigned to this case. I also attended the Public Comment Meeting in Yuma last Thursday evening.

I will file your comments in the above Docket and all Commissioners will be able to review them before making a decision in this matter.

Staff appreciates your comments and the time you took to attend the Public Comment Meeting. If you should have any questions, please contact me at

Deb Reagan Public Utilities Consumer Analyst

ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION UTILITY COMPLAINT FORM

Utilities Division AZ Corporation Commission *End of Comments*

Date Completed: 3/10/2009

Opinion No. 2009 - 77386